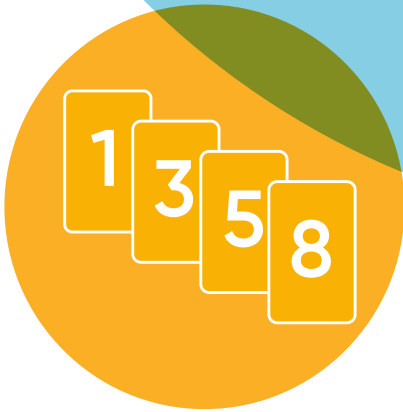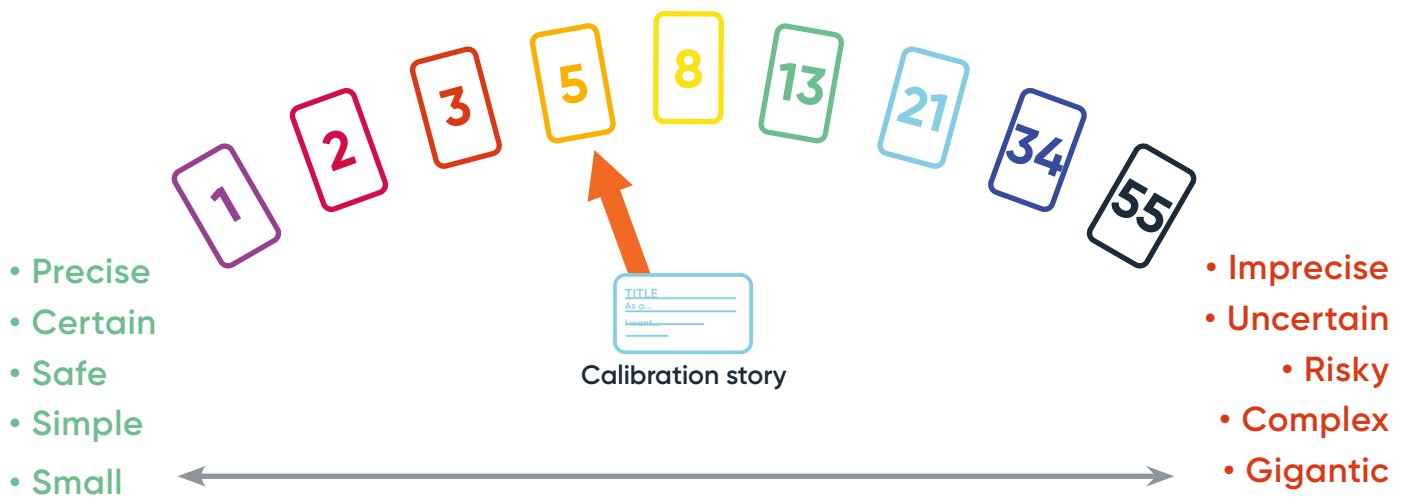# Story Points

Story points are a technique that many agile teams use for estimating user stories. Estimates are made on a relative scale that factors in SIZE, CERTAINTY, COMPLEXITY and RISK. Typically, a Fibonacci sequence is used. Effective estimating enables teams to forecast their sprints effectively.

Calibration story

- Precise
- Certain
- Safe
- Simple
- Small

- Imprecise
- Uncertain
- Risky
- Complex
- Gigantic

Planning Poker

1. The Scrum Master gathers the team and facilitates the session

2. The Product Owner describes the back log item and the team discusses

3. The team members privately select their estimate using the relative scale

4. The team reveal their estimates simultaneously

5. Discuss assumptions associated with any outlier scores

6, Product Owner validates any assumptions

7. Repeat until up to 3 times unless consensus is reached

Tips

- ✓ Only those doing the work estimate

- ✓ Calibrate the scale with an example

- ✓ Avoid converting to hours

- ✓ Ignore individual performance

- ✓ Break the story down if consensus can't be achieved or is too big

- ✓ Don't argue over small differences

- ✓ Estimate the whole thing not just your bit

agility.im

©Agility in Mind Ltd.

+44 (0)330 043 0143 • better@agility.im